

BMW IM HERZEN DES SUDENS

2017, Issue 1 • January 2017

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Lane Motor Museum

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story and pictures



Photos Courtesy of Troy Wesson

SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, February 4, 2017
Heart of Dixie Kick-Off Party & 24 Hours of LeMons



Join us on Saturday, February 4 as we kick off the new year with food, fun and fellowship. Barber recently opened another 85,000 square feet in addition to the current 144,000 square feet of space. Our private party will have full access to the museum, including behind the scenes and exclusive viewing of the 24 Hours of LeMons endurance race. Watch your e-mail for details and registration.



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Newsletter

Troy Wesson
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President's Letter

Hello Everyone

Wow, 2016 was a great year for the club. We had a very successful driving school, numerous fun runs and had a great time with our beloved BMWs.

2017 Promises to be even better. Come join us for the 2017 Kick Off Party at Barber Museum on February 4th and plan your schedule for the coming year.

As always, it is a privilege and honor to serve as your president. If you ever have a question or concern, do not hesitate to call me (256-990-3820) or email me @ (slowery726@charter.net)

We are always looking for new ideas and



volunteers to keep the club moving forward.

As the old saying goes, you only get out what you put into something so dive in and get involved.

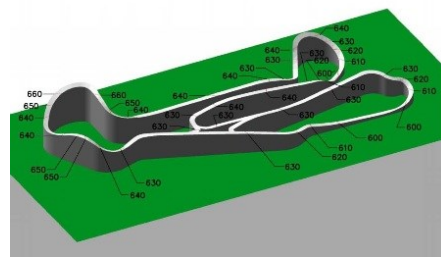
Sincerely,

Steve Lowery, President—HOD BMW CCA

M Day in Spartanburg

The Smoky Mountain Chapter M Day for 2016 was such a success that we are doing it again. We have begun planning and have reserved **Saturday, 18 February 2017**. This will be open to 32 drivers at a cost of **\$700** per driver—a lot cheaper than the normal \$1550 for a one-day M School. As an added bonus the new M2's are included in the fleet so we will be able to experience this great new addition to BMW's M fleet of cars. For this event we will drive the M2, M3, and M4. Now accepting reservations—initial payment of \$350. The final payment will be due 28 Jan 2017. To reserve your seat send a check of \$350 (or the full \$700) made out to Smoky Mtn. BMW CCA to me at: Richard Stouder, 192 Whippoorwill Drive, Oak Ridge, TN 37830. If you have any questions, please contact Rich at oakridger48@msn.com Richard Stouder, Smoky Mountain BMW CCA

Barber Drivers Education



Guys and Gals, Start your 2017 planning, as we have secured the weekend of **March 25-26th 2017** for the annual Heart of Dixie BMW CCA DE. We will have Barber the last weekend of March and are looking forward to a nice spring date. We will be hosting a BMW CCA Club race and Drivers Education Event for **Saturday and Sunday**. Go ahead and block off this weekend on the calendar, we look forward to seeing you all.

Jack Joyner, Chief Instructor HOD BMW CCA

Got an idea for an event?

The board will be meeting in January to plan the calendar for 2017. We are continuing to look for good ideas for new and innovative fun runs and other club events. It takes many volunteers to put together a full calendar of adventures. If you are willing to commit to planning and leading a fun run, please send your ideas to Carol Lowery, Event Coordinator at clowery@albmwcca.org. We can't rely on the same few individuals to plan and run our events. You must be willing to test the route and coordinate in advance with the restaurant and destination. (We find that you also need to confirm reservations again the week of the event.) The board will reimburse of to \$50 in gas for planning AND dry-running the route.

2016 MINI JCW...The other “M” car

As an owner of 9 BMWs over the past 16 years I've always known about the “M” cars; those special breed of cars that look like what most of us drive but have that added dash of something special. Well I'm here to tell the faithful that there is another “M” car out there and it's called MINI. I'm specifically talking about the John Cooper Works edition.

Quick back story on why I'm writing about this car. My wife's 2011 BMW 328i had just hit 93,000 miles, the CPO warranty expired a couple of months ago and before you know it I knew we'd be looking at some maintenance costs with it approaching 100k miles. I asked Paula to start looking around for what she might like to drive next. I knew with all the cars she was considering her heart kept coming back to the 2008 MINI Cooper S she had given up several years ago. Lo and behold, I get an email about a month ago and she had gone to MINIUSA.COM and built her dream car, a 2016 MINI Cooper S in British Racing Green.

This is the exact car from the link she sent me.



Being the great husband I am, I thought what the heck; let me see what we can do. I did a quick search on Autotrader to see what was out there within a 100-mile radius of us. What comes up but a 2016 MINI Cooper in Rebel Green and it's a John Cooper Works. I was intrigued and Paula liked the looks, so off we went. Our test drive was two nights later and as the salesman pulled it up and Paula got behind the wheel I knew we had found her love again. The smile on her face told me all I needed to know.

She calls him Ollie.

So, what makes this the “M” cars of the Cooper world? How about Brembo brakes...how about 228 horsepower...

Do you have a story about your favorite BMW? How about your latest adventure? E-mail your submission to twesson@albmwcca.org



Photo Courtesy of Jonathan Holly

how about a tuned suspension? I can't begin to tell you what a blast this car is to drive. It's like a water bug that darts from one direction to the next with such ease. The exhaust pops and crackles when you downshift. People smile when you go by and give you a thumb's up or a wave. It's the MINIs that we've been exposed to through forums and Facebook. It's a lifestyle and a community that allows you so much freedom to do what you want with your MINI to make it yours.

I've not had the privilege to own a BMW “M” car yet, but this car gives me a glimpse on what that world must be like. It feels so special and fun in this other “M” car from BMW.

Happy Motoring-
Jonathan Holly

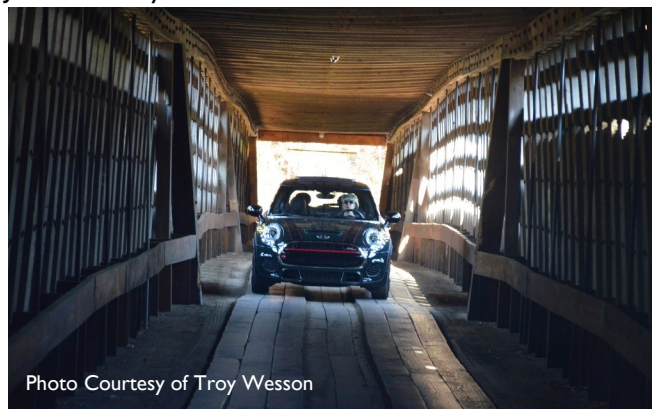


Photo Courtesy of Troy Wesson

Blount County Covered Bridge Fun Run—October 29, 2016

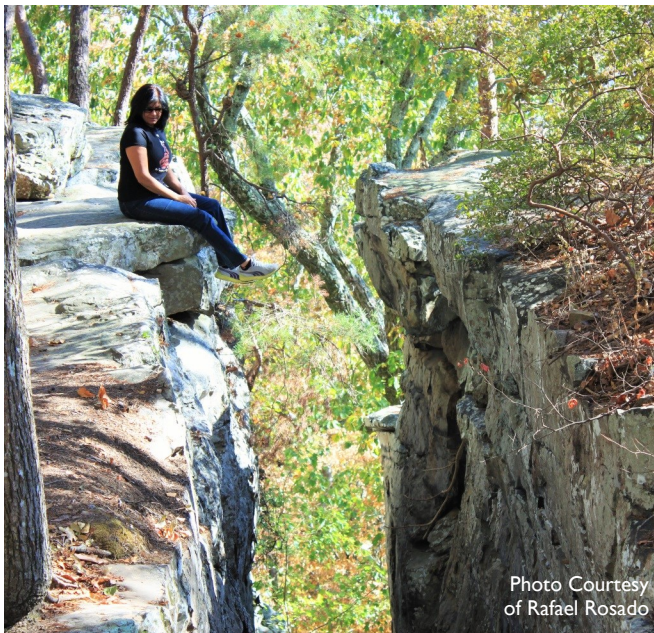


Photo Courtesy of Rafael Rosado



Horton Mill Bridge (1894) rises 70 feet and stands as the highest covered bridge above any U.S. waterway.

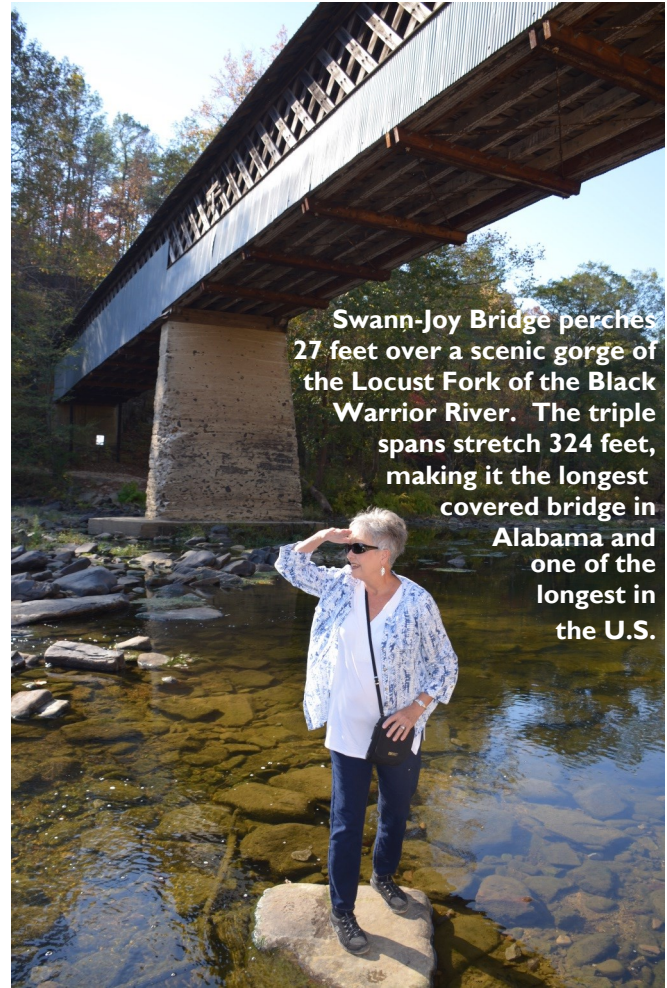


Photos Courtesy of Troy Wesson unless otherwise noted



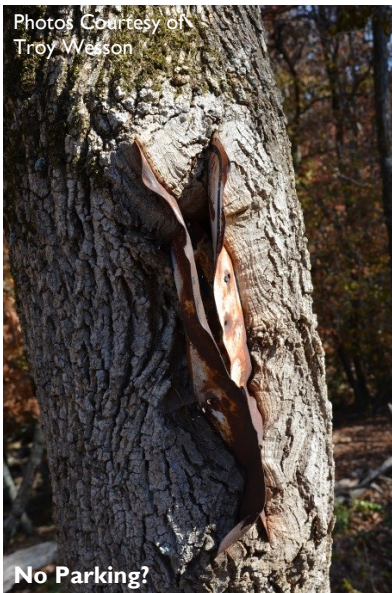
Palisades Park perches atop Ebell Mountain and offers views of a deep valley and forested ridges. The 1,300-foot elevation over limestone bluffs is a popular spot for rock climbing and scenic views.





Swann-Joy Bridge perches 27 feet over a scenic gorge of the Locust Fork of the Black Warrior River. The triple spans stretch 324 feet, making it the longest covered bridge in Alabama and one of the longest in the U.S.

Photos Courtesy of Troy Wesson



No Parking?



Old Easley Covered Bridge—the smallest and oldest (1927) of the bridges, crossing the Dub Branch of the Black Warrior River. Restored in 2009.

Did we see you on our adventure? Visit www.albmwcca.org/gallery/covered-bridge-2016 for more pictures including individual BMWs crossing each bridge.

Happy Birthday BMW Fun Run to the Lane Motor Museum in Nashville

Thirty-two members of the Heart of Dixie ventured to the Lane Motor Museum on Saturday, December 3 to check out the exclusive 100 year BMW anniversary exhibit, the over 150 cars on display and a private tour of another 300 cars in the basement. (more pictures on page 7)



129 Tail of the Dragon by Steven Bugg

The River City Bimmers Chapter hosted a weekend fun run at Deal's Gap and the Tail of the Dragon. Don Bishop and I drove up on Friday, 4 November from Huntsville where we met up with folks from seven BMWCCA Chapters: River City, Buckeye, Smokey Mountain, Heart of Dixie, Peach Tree, Sandlapper, Choo-Choo. There was a short meet and greet that evening, followed by a much needed night's rest. Saturday morning we started out at 8:30 and headed out from the Fontana Dam Resort with a caravan of 32 vehicles. We took a "leisurely" cruise down to the dam side of the Dragon where we stopped as a group for a few pictures. We then broke out into smaller groups of five or six depending on driver ability and began a day full of runs at our own pace until dinner. We all converged at the Resort restaurant for a nice dinner

Photos Courtesy of Steven Bugg

as the big group. Although I will now need new tires and brake pads, it was a fantastic weekend. I will most definitely be going back next year if my schedule permits.



Lane Motor Museum (continued)



THE HEART OF
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BMW
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NEWSLETTER

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You can also find
your local chapter
on Facebook at:
[www.facebook.com/
HeartOfDixieBmwCca](http://www.facebook.com/HeartOfDixieBmwCca)

Got an idea for a story?
Interested in providing
pictures or a story from
our next club event? If
so, contact Troy Wesson,
Newsletter Editor, at
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BMW Car Club
Of America
Heart of Dixie Chapter



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The Benefits of a BMW Club Membership

- Vehicle Rebate: BMW CCA members in good standing (membership for 12 months prior to the purchase) may be eligible for substantial rebates up to \$1,500 on the purchase or lease of a new or Certified Pre-Owned BMW from any authorized U.S. BMW Center. See bmwcca.org for details.
- Outstanding national events including BMW CCA's premier annual gathering, Oktoberfest.
- 12-month subscription to the Club magazine, *Roundel*.
- Driving schools, autocrosses, safety schools, fun runs and Club Racing.
- Regional club-sponsored car corrals at major road races, like the Indy and Grand Am Series at Barber Motorsports Park.
- Free classified ads on the website and in *Roundel* magazine.
- Access to our Technical Service Advisors for personalized advice.
- Ombudsmen to help with dealer issues.
- Friends of BMW: A roster of fellow BMW CCA members who can offer coffee and conversation, repair tools, workspace, sometimes even help when you're out on the road.
- Club library and video services. Borrow BMW-related books and videos.
- Availability of a BMW CCA affinity credit card.
- Free BMW CCA decals available from the club office.
- Access to all areas of the growing online community at www.bmwcca.org.



Photo Courtesy of Troy Wesson
See Page 4 for more from our Covered Bridge Fun Run

SAVE THE DATE! 2017 Kick-Off Party at Barber Motorsports Museum on
Saturday, February 4. New expansion and 24 Hours of LeMons Racing.